

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:

OEP/DG2E/Gas 3
ET Rover Pipeline LLC
Rover Pipeline Project
Docket No. PF14-14-000

September 11, 2014

Mr. Shawn Garvin
c/o Barbara Rudnick, NEPA Team Leader
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3 Office
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

RE: Request for Participation as a Cooperating Agency

Dear Mr. Garvin:

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) would like to request your assistance as a cooperating agency in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Rover Pipeline Project (Project), which is proposed by ET Rover Pipeline LLC (ET Rover). On June 27, 2014, FERC approved ET Rover's request to begin the Commission's Pre-Filing Process, which enables review of the Project to begin before an application is filed with FERC. The purpose of the Pre-Filing Process is to seek public and agency input early in the Project planning phase and encourage involvement by interested stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early identification and resolution of environmental issues.

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting environmental reviews of proposed interstate pipeline projects in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the FERC authorization process. The resulting environmental document would be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the Project is in the public interest. As a cooperator, the environmental document would also support the NEPA requirements associated with any permits found necessary for issuance by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We recognize that your agency has special expertise with respect to environmental issues associated with the Project and request that your cooperation with the environmental review process for the Project.

The proposed Project would be designed to transport 3.25 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to markets in the Midwest and Canada. ET Rover plans to construct and operate about 608 miles of new 36- and 42-inch-diameter mainline and lateral pipelines in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Michigan. The Project begins near Leesville, Ohio and ends at the U.S./Canadian border near East China, Michigan. About 208 miles would include two parallel, 42-inch-diameter pipelines between Leesville and Defiance, Ohio as well as a portion of the

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route between Leesville and Cadiz, Ohio (about 18 miles). Additional facilities would include 10 new compressor stations, 12 new metering and regulating stations, and other appurtenant facilities.

Consistent with NEPA implementing regulations (Title 40 CFR Part 1501.6) and the formalized agreement between our agencies,¹ we hope that your involvement as a cooperating agency would allow us to:

- ☐ work together as well as with the Project proponents and other stakeholders to identify and resolve environmental issues early in the review process;
- ☐ attempt to build a consensus on appropriate methods to avoid or minimize environmental impacts; and
- ☐ expedite the environmental permitting and review of this Project.

If you would like to participate with us in preparing the EIS, please send a letter expressing your interest and anticipated level of involvement to the Secretary of the Commission at the address provided below:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to your reply and hope to see you at our first interagency meeting. Once we receive additional Project information, FERC would set a schedule for the interagency meetings and public scoping meetings, and mail a notice with the details. If you have any questions or comments please contact Kara Harris, environmental project manager, at 202-502-6296 or kara.harris@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

James Martin, Chief
Gas Branch 3

cc: Public File, Docket No. PF14-14-000

¹ Interagency Agreement on Early Coordination of Required Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews Conducted in Conjunction with the Issuance of Authorizations to Construct and Operate Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines Certificated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (May 2002).

Document Content(s)

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